

The President's Daily Brief

August 10, 1976

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Top Secret^{50X1}

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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GREECE-TURKEY: *Greece lodged a second protest with Turkey yesterday over activities of the research ship Sismik. In delivering the note, the Greek ambassador in Ankara asserted that Greece could accept Turkey's bid to resume bilateral negotiations on Aegean problems only if the research ship stays out of contested waters.*

A Turkish official told the US embassy in Ankara that the second Greek note contained "harsher" language than the first, and that a correspondingly stronger Turkish reply was being prepared.

Greek Prime Minister Caramanlis announced last night that Athens will shortly request an emergency session of the UN Security Council to consider the Greek-Turkish dispute. He said Greece would also turn to the International Court of Justice for a demarcation of the Aegean continental shelf.

Caramanlis' announcement seems designed largely to give him room to maneuver. At the very least, this statement of government intentions should relieve domestic pressure for sterner reaction to Turkish activity.

Turkish Prime Minister Demirel told the press that the Sismik would continue its scheduled operations.

Each government has accused the other of provocative activities associated with their respective efforts to monitor the Sismik. Turkey has complained that low-flying Greek aircraft have harassed the ship. Greek officials told the US embassy yesterday that Turkish planes had twice overflown the Greek ship that is following the Sismik.

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Dutch Foreign Minister Van Der Stoel, who met with Caramanlis over the weekend, has urged the EC to take action to ease Greek-Turkish tensions. Differences among EC governments on how to approach the matter, however, may limit action to demarches to Athens and Ankara suggesting a renewal of bilateral talks.

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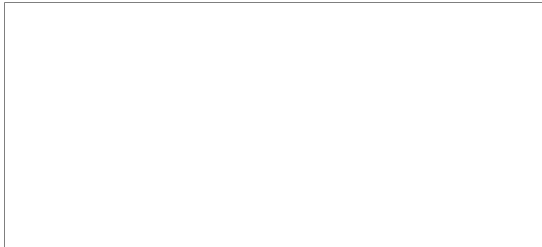
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LEBANON: *The repeatedly postponed meeting of the Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese truce committee has been further delayed by the departure of Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam and Palestine Liberation Organization representative Qaddumi for the nonaligned conference in Sri Lanka.*

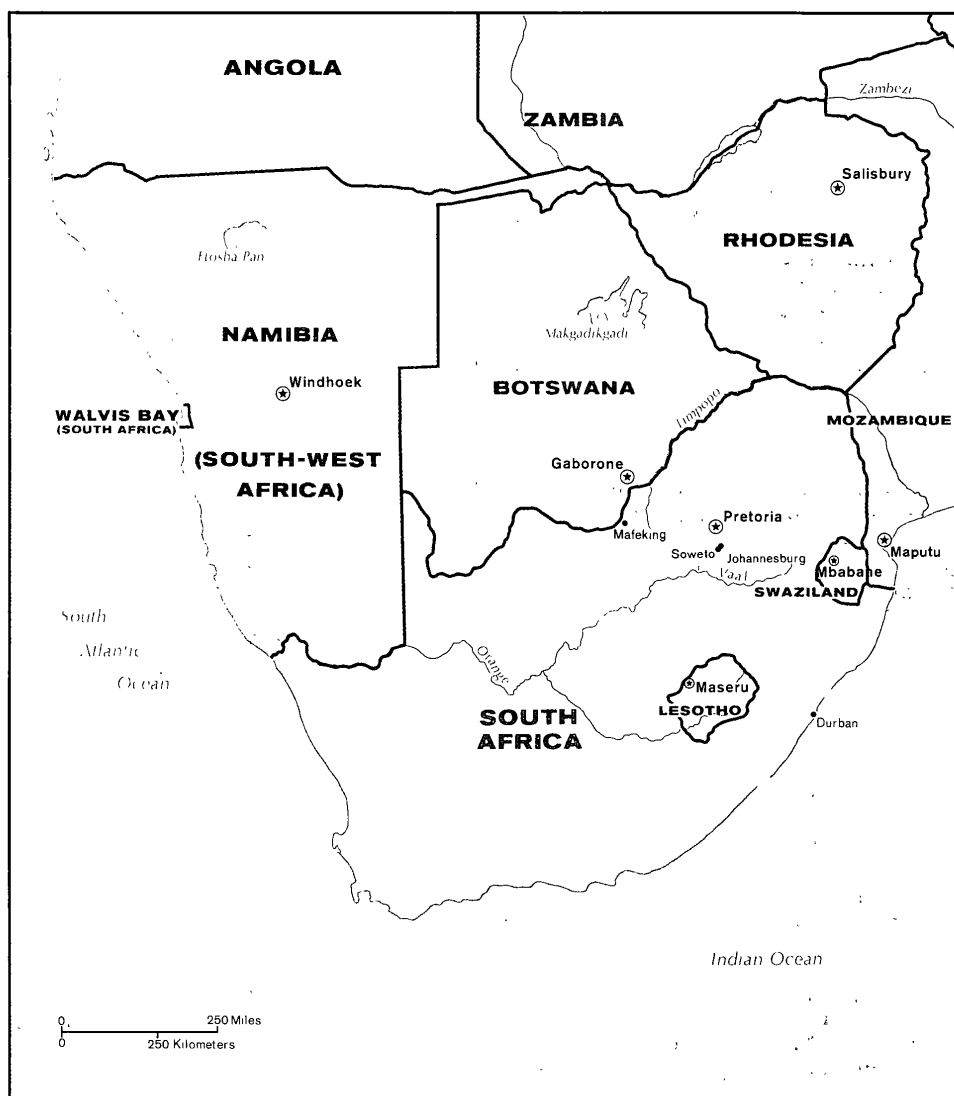
The long delay is allowing objections from all parties to surface. The Syrians are now insisting that other parties, in addition to that of extremist Kamal Jumblatt, represent the Lebanese left. Christian leader Camille Shamun has branded Jumblatt and his followers as traitors and refuses to attend the committee meetings if they participate.

The Syrians, presumably to avoid being charged with violating the "cease-fire," seem content for the time being to let the Christians take the lead in the fighting throughout the country.

Some fighting seems to be continuing in the Muslim enclave of Nabaa, and there are reports of heavy firing in Shiyah and nearby suburbs south of Beirut. In the north, a Christian force launched an armored attack over the weekend 50X1 against Palestinians just outside Tripoli.



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NOTES

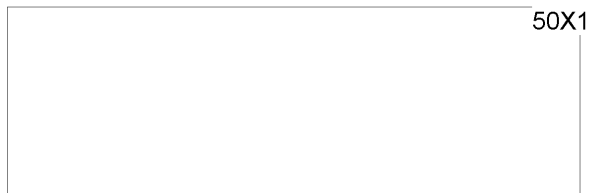
Student disturbances in South Africa were reported yesterday in 12 separate localities.

Areas in which students were active included several black townships around Johannesburg, a township near Durban, and Mafeking--the capital of a tribal area.

In Mafeking, demonstrators burned down the building where the legislative assembly meets. Other disturbances, however, were on a smaller scale than the outbreaks last week in Soweto.

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The Soviets yesterday launched an unmanned lunar probe from the Tyuratam test center.



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A large delegation from North Korea--probably led by President Kim Il-song--will attend the nonaligned summit conference that opens in Colombo early next week.

Pyongyang wants the conference to brand the US as the major source of tension on the Korean peninsula. North Korea also hopes to develop increased support from nonaligned countries for its position at the UN General Assembly this fall.

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